



Sheila Dixon

*Mayor,
Baltimore*

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**Mayor Sheila Dixon Greets Mayor Ron Mehetzri, Mayor of
Ashkelon, Israel**

Baltimore, MD (June 11, 2007) – At a City Hall ceremony attended by members of the City Council and other dignitaries, Baltimore Mayor Sheila Dixon met with Mayor Ron Mehetzri of Ashkelon, Israel, Baltimore's sister city in Israel.

“In addition to our many cultural and economic ties, the citizens of Baltimore and the citizens of Ashkelon share many of the same dreams and hopes for the future,” said Dixon. “This visit, and our sister city relationship with Ashkelon, gives us an opportunity to exchange ideas and expand the horizons of both cities.”

Baltimore and Ashkelon began their sister city relationship in 2005. Since then, representatives from Baltimore and Ashkelon have exchanged ideas on many facets of city government and have provided a valuable cultural exchange as well. Mayor Dixon and Mayor Mehetzri hope to further solidify and define the two cities' relationship with this visit.

In addition to meeting with Mayor Dixon, members of the Ashkelon delegation will meet with City parks officials and representatives from the school system, and will tour the Jewish Museum of Maryland.

In part through a grant from THE ASSOCIATED; Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore, a Baltimore City delegation will visit Ashkelon in late October.

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